



**PARKS and RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES
March 2, 2006**

Attendees:

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members

Committee Membership

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| Frank McDavid, Chairman | Clover Hill District | Member of All PRAC Committees |
| Jim Beck | Bermuda District | * First Meeting |
| Dennis Harding | Dale District | Athletics Activities Committee Budget Committee By-Laws Committee |
| Bob Terrell | Dale District | Chair, Athletics Activities Committee Capital Projects Committee, Background Checks Committee |
| Jose Sanchez | Clover Hill District | Capital Projects Committee Athletic Activities Committee |
| Ron Maxey | Midlothian District | Capital Projects Committee |
| Earl Gee | Matoaca District | Budget Committee Athletics Activities Committee, By-laws Committee |
| Lynn Crump | School Board | Capital Projects Committee, Outreach, Greenways Advocacy Committee and Future Visions |
| Tim Russell | Matoaca District | Chair, Budget Committee Chair, Future Visions Background Checks Committee Outreach & Greenways Advocacy |

Absent:

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|------------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Will Shewmake | Midlothian District | Chair, Bylaws Committee, Chair, Outreach and Greenways Advocacy Committee Future Visions Committee Athletic Activities Committee |
| Jack Griffin, Vice Chairman | Bermuda District | Capital Projects Committee, Athletics Activities Committee, Background Checks Committee |

Parks and Recreation Staff

Mike Golden, Director, Primary Liaison, By-laws Committee and Future Visions Committee

Lynell McClinton, Chief of Finance, Primary Liaison Budget Committee

Phil Innis, Assistant Director, Primary Liaison Athletic Activities, Outreach & Greenways, and Background Checks Committee

Bruce Dove, Assistant Director, Liaison Budget, Capital Projects and Future Visions Committee

Mark Askin, Chief of Parks, Liaison Outreach and Greenways and Budget Committees

Stuart Connock, Jr., Chief of Parks Design and Construction, Primary Liaison, Capital Projects Committee

Bill Carlson, Athletics Manager, Liaison Athletic Activities and Background Checks Committees

Doug Salyers, Liaison Budget Committee

Rebecca J Parker, CPS/CAP, Secretary

2006 Standing Committee

| Budget | Capital Projects | Athletics Activities | Background Checks | Outreach and Greenways |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tim Russell, Chair | Jack Griffin, Chair* | Bob Terrell, Chair | Bob Terrell, Chair | Will Shewmake, Chair |
| Earl Gee | Lynn Crump | Earl Gee | Jack Griffin | Lynn Crump |
| Dennis Harding | Ron Maxey | Jack Griffin | Frank McDavid | Frank McDavid |
| Tim Mick | Jim Beck | Dennis Harding | Tim Russell | Tim Russell |
| Frank McDavid | Bob Terrell | Tim Russell | | |
| | Frank McDavid | Will Shewmake | | |
| | Jose Sanchez | Frank McDavid | | |

*** Pending Acceptance**

| Future Visions | By-Laws |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Tim Russell-Chair | Will Shewmake, Chair |
| Will Shewmake | Earl Gee |
| Lynn Crump | Dennis Harding |
| Frank McDavid | |

Speakers on Scheduled and Unscheduled Matters

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| Blake Eller | Chesterfield Baseball Clubs (CBC) |
| Bruce Arkeura | Weaver Athletic Association |
| Lou Lipa | CMYFL |
| Mike Hairfield | Chesterfield Quarterback League (CQL) |
| Robert Hodges | Chesterfield Basketball League |

**Chairman's Work Session
6:30 p.m.**

1. Parks and Recreation Issues for Discussion

Co-sponsorship:

Phil Innis discussed a request submitted by the Weaver Athletic Association for co-sponsorship to operate a lacrosse program, as a league, for ages 8 – 12 years. Phil Innis explained that most athletic associations participate within a league. In this instance, there has been a failure to reach an agreement between Weaver Athletic Association and an area league. Phil Innis said that considerations include whether or not Weaver Athletic Association meets the guidelines for co-sponsorship and what facilities are available for Weaver's use. The Soccer/Field Hockey and Lacrosse Assignments are on the agenda for final approval tonight. Weaver Athletic Association plans to operate a spring season that runs March through May. Phil Innis advised that the Weaver Athletic Association could possibly use facilities at Goyne Park or Matoaca east. Ron Maxey recommended that the co-sponsorship be granted. Bill Carlson advised that the Weaver Athletic Association has signed 116 kids to play lacrosse and has invested in equipment.

Mike Golden advised that as with other County Commissions, PRAC's work session is not a forum used to make a final decision but instead is used to acquire information on an issue so that it can be thoroughly and efficiently addressed during regular monthly meetings.

2. Items Under Committee Review for Possible Report at PRAC.

- **Chairman for Background Checks Committee**

Frank McDavid asked Bob Terrell if he would serve as Chairman of the Background Checks Committee. Bob Terrell agreed to serve.

- **Chairman for Capital Projects Committee**

Frank McDavid discussed the report that Jack Griffin would be willing to serve as Chairman of the Capital Projects Committee. Since Jack Griffin was not present, Frank McDavid advised that he would contact Jack Griffin and ask him to serve as Chairman of the Capital Projects Committee.

- **Budget Committee**

Tim Russell advised that the Committee would meet before the April 6 PRAC meeting.

- **Athletic Activities Committee**

Bob Terrell said that no prior discussion of the Committee report was needed.

3. Introduction of New PRAC Member

On behalf of the Commission, Frank McDavid welcomed Jim Beck, representative for the Bermuda District. Chairman McDavid invited Mr. Beck to introduce himself to the members. Jim Beck said he had coached baseball (Chesterfield Baseball League), football (CQL) and basketball (CBL). Mr. Beck

also said that he had served as an umpire and a coach for women's softball. Chairman McDavid said that Jim Beck had expressed an interest in serving on the Capital Projects Committee and asked that the record reflect Jim Beck's membership on the Capital Projects Committee.

4. Concession Trailer Agreement:

Mike Golden said the concept of portable concession trailers had been previously discussed with the Commission. The first portable concession trailers are scheduled to be in place at Salem and Providence Middle School in time for football season. The terms of a lease agreement between the concession trailer holders and the County must be developed. Phil Innis has developed preliminary pricing guidelines. This may be an issue that can be deferred to the Athletic Activities Committee or the Budget Committee. Lynn Crump suggested a joint meeting between the Budget Committee and the Athletic Activities Committee. Mike said football begins in August and the agreement would need to be finalized in May to go before the Board of Supervisors for their approvals in June and July.

Frank McDavid said that it could be brought up and sent to Athletic Activities Committee.

5. Items for Presentation to the Board of Supervisors

- Purchase of Park Land
- Artificial Turf Grass
- Full-time Planner

Lynn Crump advised that these items were discussed at the Capital Projects Committee meeting and all items had been removed from the CIP and Operating budgets, during the budget reviews. If members approve, a PRAC representative could go before the Board and request that these issues be added back into their respective budgets. Tim Russell said that as long as the artificial turf issue was not specific to a particular district or group, he had no objections to moving forward without further discussions.

The Commission reached a consensus for Frank McDavid to present PRAC's recommendation to the Board of Supervisors, on March 22, 2006, at the evening session. That recommendation will be to restore to the CIP and Operating budgets the following items: land acquisition, artificial turf and a full-time planner's position.

Deferred Items:

- By-laws Committee Report – Frank McDavid requested that the draft By-laws and Mission statement be distributed to all PRAC members for discussion at the April 6 meeting.

The Chairman's Work Session was closed at 7:00 p.m.

I. Chairman, Frank McDavid called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Non Sectarian Invocation:

Chairman McDavid gave thanks and asked for continued blessings and guidance in making the decisions.

III. Pledge of Allegiance:

Bruce Dove led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Approval of February 2, 2006, Minutes:

Dennis Harding made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and approve them as written. Bob Terrell seconded the motion. The Commission vote was unanimous and the minutes were approved as written.

V. Amendments to Agenda:

The Agenda was amended to include Chesterfield Basketball Leagues' presentation.

VI. Meeting Procedures:

Chairman McDavid discussed the process, currently in Committee, to review and update the 1993 PRAC *By-laws* and *Mission Statement*. Chairman McDavid also described the changes to the meeting procedures that now give priority to public comments. Chairman McDavid instructed anyone who wished to speak to stand and advise him. A sign-up sheet is available, and remarks should be limited to 5 minutes or less. A twenty-four hour notice must be given before a presentation can be made to the Commission, and that presentation must be limited to 30 minutes or less.

VII. Public Comments on Agenda Items:

Blake Eller – Chesterfield Baseball Club (CBC)

Blake Eller discussed the safety issue of dual play— one player pitching games for more than one league. Dennis Harding pointed out that there were currently rules in place to prevent a child from being on more than one roster. Mr. Eller said every league has different pitching requirements and there is no way to monitor the total number of games one player is pitching. Ron Maxey said this was an issue that should be monitored by parents. Bob Terrell said that each league would be responsible for the number of innings a child pitches for their league.

Lou Lippa, CMYFL

Lou Lippa discussed the potential problem of concession operators/treasurers being hired when the league is unaware that they have a record for embezzlement. Mr. Lippa would like the County to notify the leagues when a background check reveals this type of offense. Background checks for treasurers could be an option, but would require approval by the Board of Supervisors and a new ordinance. Mr. Lippa pointed out that the County invests a lot of money in youth programs and would have an interest in protecting it. Jose Sanchez suggested that someone from the league could check available website information that lists criminal convictions. Mike Golden said background checks would be performed on any officer of the organization; however, embezzlement might not restrict participation, unless there is a pattern. White-collar crime is not the target of our background checks. Phil Innis pointed out that a background check might not be the final solution because individuals without a previous record can be

tempted when handling money. Chairman McDavid suggested that bonding concession operators/treasurers would be a workable option for the leagues.

Lou Lipka also discussed the issue of players and field assignments in reference to AAU Baseball.

Bruce Arkema, President, Weaver Athletic Association

Mr. Arkema advised that Weaver has applied to be a cosponsored organization for a lacrosse program. The Weaver Athletic Association was founded in 2002. Weaver Athletic Association enjoys tremendous parental support. Weaver Athletic Association is a 501.c.3 organization. The Association is a member of “*Character Counts*”. “*Character Counts*” is a national organization that encourages youth to build character traits that include trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Weaver Athletic Association coaches must pass a board test. Their slogan is “*Pursue Victory with Honor*”.

Mr. Arkema explained that after anonymous survey results were reviewed, the organization decided that there was enough interest to offer a lacrosse program. There are 116 players registered (6 teams) for lacrosse, at this time. Experienced coaches are available and money has also been collected for equipment. Mr. Arkema assured Dennis Harding that the lacrosse program would be inclusive and that the Association was sensitive to the issue of pulling players from other organizations. Their organization also offers scholarship programs to players.

Mr. Arkema stressed that their immediate need was for fields on which to play. Mr. Arkema pointed out that the Robious corridor was in need of fields and suggested that PRAC and Parks and Recreation consider a lottery system for field allocation to give all leagues, including new organizations, an equal opportunity. Mr. Arkema said they are also trying to find private fields to rent.

Mike Golden said Parks and Recreation’s first recommendation was for Weaver Athletic Association to work within an existing league. Since this is not possible, Parks and Recreation’s recommendation is to try to accommodate the new lacrosse program; however, the current season’s field assignments could not easily be changed. Parks and Recreation has received the co-sponsorship forms from Weaver Athletic Association and would recommend that they be approved for co-sponsorship as a league for lacrosse. The Commission consensus was to approve this recommendation.

Mr. Arkema thanked Bill Carlson and Ron Maxey for all their support.

Mike Hairfield, Chesterfield Quarterback League (CQL)

Mike Hairfield reported that the two youths missing, after boating on the Swift Creek Reservoir, had played football with CQL at Swift Creek. Robert Hodges said one of the boys played basketball with CBL at Swift Creek. Mike Hairfield and the Commission expressed their concern for Travis Turner and Jordan Sebia and their families and friends.

Robert Hodges, President of Chesterfield Basketball League (CBL)

Mr. Hodges provided a handout with information about Chesterfield Basketball League's 2006 Season. In the southern part of the County, there are 57 teams (558 players), in the northern part of the County; there are 158 teams (1,570 players). There are a total of 215 teams with 2,128 players. There is also one Challenger team with 31 players.

The most pressing issue is gym time and facilities and when further expansion takes place, as expected, the situation will become more even more critical.

Chesterfield Basketball League's mission is more than just about winning. Imparting life skills is an important part of the program. The technical foul rule is part of this initiative. Safety clinics are also held to make sure players have the necessary skills to play safely. The overall desire is to help kids become productive citizens.

Mr. Hodges said that CBL's *wish-list* includes the following:

- New gyms -- similar to the Greenfield Elementary facility
- Early assignment of gyms for girls' and boys' leagues -- prior to August 1
- Better lighting in Midlothian Middle and Manchester Middle School gyms

Frank McDavid thanked Mr. Hodges for an excellent presentation.

VIII. Parks and Recreation Director's Remarks:

Mike Golden reported that on February 22, 2006, the Board of Supervisors presented Timothy R. Mick with a Resolution honoring him for his service with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission. Timothy R. Mick served the citizens of Chesterfield County as a member of the Advisory Commission since 1996. (The Resolution is reprinted below.)

**RECOGNIZING MR. TIMOTHY R. MICK FOR HIS SERVICE TO
THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION AND THE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was established in 1993 by the Board of Supervisors for the purpose of assessing the recreation needs of the County, advising the Board of Supervisors and County staff, and making specific recommendations on the most equitable use of facilities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Timothy R. Mick was appointed as a member of the Commission representing the Bermuda Magisterial District in January 1996, and since that time has served the citizens of Chesterfield with distinction; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mick served as Chairman of the Budget Committee, the Background Checks Committee and the Capital Projects Committee and continuously worked to resolve issues and bring forth policy recommendations later adopted by the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Commission provided guidance and direction on development of a Parks and Recreation Master Plan and set standards for capital improvements for new facilities and developed policies for the safety and protection of youth sports participants; and

WHEREAS, the Commission set schedules for sports season dates and recommended assignments of facilities to cosponsored leagues; and

WHEREAS, the Commission strongly supported the passage of the 2004 Bond Referendum and the resulting acquisition and development of new parks and recreation facilities throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the Commission developed and have created a Recreational Volunteers Recognition Program, with the first awards ceremonies held in the spring of 2004; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mick has contributed greatly to the Chesterfield community through his own volunteerism, serving in the capacity of President of the Chesterfield Quarterback League, State Youth Director for the Bass Federation and serving in a leadership position with the Harrowgate Athletic Association and initializing and developing the Margueritte Christian Athletic Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors, this 22 day of February 2006, publicly recognizes and commends Mr. Timothy R. Mick, for his dedicated and outstanding service to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission and to the citizens of Chesterfield County.

Mike Golden also discussed the list of PRAC accomplishments from 1993 to present. Chairman McDavid said this information would be archived for future reference. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and members will be added to the respective years of accomplishments. Lynn Crump requested that this information be sent to past members for their input. The final list will be distributed electronically to the Commission members.

IX. Accept Parks and Recreation Staff Reports: No Reports required discussion.

X. Committee Reports:

Capital Projects Committee:

Jack Griffin is the tentative Chairman of this Committee, pending his acceptance.
Jim Beck will serve on the Capital Projects Committee.

Background Checks Committee:

Bob Terrell has agreed to Chair this Committee.

Athletic Activities Committee:

Bob Terrell reported that the Committee met to discuss safety issues, such as developing a severe weather and league safety guidelines. A representative from Risk Management was present. Parks and Recreation supports a safe play area and properly approved safety equipment for each child. The staff has conducted research and found that other localities rely on leagues to set their own safety guidelines. Parks and Recreation encourages each league to have regulations regarding safety equipment and severe weather.

XI. Deferred Business:

Public Hearings – Soccer/Field Hockey/Lacrosse Assignments

Mike Golden said that this was the second time the assignments were brought before the public for discussion, in accordance with the procedures. Tim Russell made a motion to approve the spring sports field assignments. Bob Terrell seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The assignments were approved with unanimous vote.

Other-Items for Board of Supervisors Discussion

Ron Maxey will develop some bullet points for Chairman McDavid's presentation about artificial turf to the Board.

Manchester Middle School Lighting

Dennis Harding asked that a serious review of the improvements needed at Manchester Middle School be conducted. Bob Terrell said that during the Capital Projects Committee meeting, Stuart Connock advised that improvements to the concession would begin when school was out.

Ron Maxey said the indoor lighting problems at Manchester Middle School might be a maintenance issue. Bruce Dove said this would be investigated to find out if replacement of the bulbs would bring the foot-candle levels up to standard.

XII. New Business - None

XIII. Recommendations of Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- **Revised By-laws and Mission Statement**
- **Winter Sports Programs Report**

XIV. Adjournment:

Frank McDavid made a motion to adjourn. Jose Sanchez seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Rebecca J. Parker, CPS/CAP

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| The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2006, at the Central Library Rooms A&B |
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